

## Summary of DAT Conference Call 4/24/2007

Participants: EChappell (DWR), JSpeegle (FWS),  
RGartz(DFG), BOppenheim(NMFS), KFleming(DFG),  
VPoage(FWS), AChu(DWR), JWhite(DFG),  
MGuerin(CCWD), MFord(DWR), NHindman(FWS),  
TBoardman(SLDMWA), PJohnsen(FWS),  
THinojosa(DWR), BPoytress(FWS), TSwanson(BI)

### Conclusions and Recommendations

There were no new operational recommendations today.

VAMP started on Saturday 4/22 with a flow target of 3200cfs on the San Joaquin River at Vernalis and a combined export rate of 1500cfs. VAMP will continue until May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Delta Smelt Working Group Update – The DSWG met yesterday 4/23 to review the monitoring data and discuss the Grantline barrier. Based on the current distribution of delta smelt the DSWG did not have any objection to closing the Grantline barrier at this time. Tina Swanson (BI) asked if any additional monitoring was being conducted in the south Delta to detect whether changes in barrier operations would be needed to protect larval smelt. DSWG members responded that no additional monitoring is being conducted.

The DSWG will meet again on May 7<sup>th</sup> to review new survey results and to discuss potential post-VAMP actions.

**Next DAT Conference Call Tuesday, 5/1/2007, 9:00 am - 11:00 am. Phone number 916/657-4111.**

### Chinook Monitoring

#### Upper Sacramento River

Red Bluff Diversion Dam – for the period 4/16 - 4/22: fall-run passage increased averaging 54,000 per day, late fall passage increased averaging 3,900 per day, spring-run passage decreased averaging 6,500, and winter-run passage averaged 76 per day. FWS also caught about 48 steelhead per day. Adclipped Chinook catch has been decreasing over the last week. Coleman Hatchery made a second release this week of approximately 7 million fall-run Chinook, of which 1.8 million will be coded-wire tagged.

FWS stopped operating the traps to avoid the release and will resume trapping tomorrow, 4/25. They will pull the traps again on Friday, 4/27 for the installation of the Red Bluff Diversion Dam (RBDD) gates and resume trapping early next week. The RBDD gates will be lowered from 4/29 to 5/9 to meet water demands. The gates will then be raised until 5/15 when they will be lowered for the regular season.

FWS posts biweekly reports on the Bay-Delta and Tributaries Project website, at [http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special\\_Reports/red\\_bluff.php](http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special_Reports/red_bluff.php)

Mill Creek – Catch was similar to last week. DFG caught 475 fry/smolt Chinook and 7 steelhead. The catch increased with an increase in flow on 4/22.

Deer Creek – Catch increased slightly. DFG caught 1189 fry/smolt Chinook and 3 steelhead. The catch peaked with the increase in flow on 4/22.

Butte Creek – DFG resumed trapping on April 13<sup>th</sup>. For the period of 4/14 to 4/19 the catch of fry/smolts ranged from 111 to 604 per day. DFG also caught 1 yearling Chinook.

GCID – The catch of fry/smolt Chinook decreased ranging from 127 to 292 per day between 4/19 and 4/23. The catch of adclipped Chinook also decreased ranging from 1 to 33 per day.

Knights Landing – The catch of fry/smolt Chinook increased from 1 to 3 per trap-day to 10-30 per trap-day. The catch of adclipped Chinook increased from April 18<sup>th</sup> to April 20<sup>th</sup> and is decreasing.

## Delta Monitoring

Sacramento Mid-water Trawl – 2 sample days, 49 samples. FWS performed a 24-hour efficiency test last week. They caught 186 fry/smolt and 82 adclipped Chinook. FWS also caught 1 in-river steelhead and 1 adclipped steelhead.

Lower Sacramento River seine – 1 sample day, 4 samples. FWS caught 24 fry/smolt and 1 adclipped Chinook. No other species of interest.

North Delta seine – 1 sample day, 7 samples. FWS caught 16 fry/smolt and 2 adclipped Chinook. They also caught 1 female delta smelt at Rio Vista.

Central Delta seine – 1 sample day, 9 samples. No species of interest.

South Delta seine – 1 sample day, 2 samples. No species of interest.

Mossdale Kodiak Trawl – 4 sample days, 38 samples. DFG, Region 4 is now sampling 5 days per week. They caught 233 fry/smolt and 3 older juvenile Chinook and 5 in-river steelhead.

San Joaquin River seine – 1 sample day, 5 samples. No species of interest.

Chippis Island Midwater Trawl – 6 sample days, 60 samples. FWS caught 340 fry/smolt and 11 adclipped Chinook. They also caught 1 in-river steelhead, 1 delta smelt (no eggs/milt) and 12 splittail.

Bay seine – 1 sample day, 5 samples. No species of interest.

### Delta Smelt Monitoring

Spring Kodiak Trawl Update – DFG will start Survey 5 next week. The results from the Spring Kodiak Trawl surveys are posted at <http://www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/data/skt/>.

20mm Survey Update – DFG has completed Survey 3 and results are posted on the website. They started Survey 4 yesterday, 4/23 in the south Delta but no delta smelt were caught. DFG is sampling in the central Delta today and the north Delta tomorrow, 4/25. The results from the 20mm surveys are posted at <http://www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/data/20mm/>.

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be needed to protect larval smelt. DSWG members responded that no additional monitoring is being conducted.

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#### Salvage Facilities –

Chinook – Winter-run length loss at the CVP was 31 for a season total of 1555. At SWP the loss was 34 for a season total of 1742. CWT loss for SWP was 8.

Steelhead – SWP salvaged 64 in-river and 37 adclipped steelhead. CVP salvaged 180 in-river and 96 hatchery steelhead. The combined salvage of in-river steelhead is 2691 for the season.

Delta smelt – CVP salvaged 12 delta smelt (1 partially spawned male observed) for a season total of 60.

Splittail – SWP salvaged 13 splittail for a season total of 286.

Longfin smelt – None.

Sturgeon – None.

SWP completed a special study using cultured delta smelt with PIT tags. No wild delta smelt were salvaged during the study.

The Federal Facility will be shut down for repairs for 12 hours on 4/25 and 8 hours on 5/2.

The DFG Salvage Database can be accessed at this ftp site: <ftp://ftp.delta.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/>.

Turbidity data for Clifton Court forebay is available at: <http://cdec2.water.ca.gov/cgi-progs/queryFx?CLC>.

#### VAMP Update

VAMP started on Saturday 4/22 with a flow target of 3200cfs on the San Joaquin River at Vernalis and a combined export rate of 1500cfs. Dave Vogel will be deploying the receivers for the salmon study this week and the ultrasonic tagging

training will be completed on Wednesday. The tagging of Chinook will begin on Monday. The fish will be released at 9 sites over a 2 day period. The fish are still on the small side which may affect survival. VAMP will continue until May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### Agricultural Barriers

HORB – The barrier installation is complete but they are still working on the final grading and clean-up. The culverts operations may change depending on the modeling results to protect downstream water levels.

Old & Middle River – Installation of both barriers has been completed.

Grantline – The boat ramp has been installed and the middle portion of the barrier remains open. However, full closure of the barrier may be necessary in order to protect downstream water levels. DWR has made a request to close the barrier to FWS.

### Operations

#### SWP -

CCFB – 500 cfs.

Oroville – 2,500 cfs.

X2 – 14-day average < 74 km.

E/I - 3-day = 10.5%.

San Luis - ~935 taf. SWP share of San Luis capacity is 1,062 taf.

EWA - The current debt in San Luis is approximately 170taf. VAMP is currently controlling operations and EWA is accruing debt at about 1-2taf per day.

#### CVP -

Tracy PP – 1,000 cfs.

DCC – Closed.

Trinity – 300 cfs.

Clear Creek – 200 cfs.

Keswick – 7,500 cfs.

Nimbus – 1,500 cfs.

Goodwin – 1,500 cfs.

San Luis – 715 taf. CVP share of San Luis capacity is 966 taf.

## Flows

Sacramento River at Freeport ~ 13,100 cfs and decreasing slowly.

Fremont Weir ~ 0.

San Joaquin River at Vernalis ~ 3,134 cfs and holding.

Delta Outflow ~ 16,700 cfs. The 3-day average is 15,000 cfs.

Old and Middle Rivers ~ combined -4520 cfs as of 4/21/07; 5-day average is -5022 cfs.

## Delta Water Quality

Water quality is good in the western Delta and slowly improving in the south Delta.

## April Water Quality Standards

Collinsville X2 standard – The standard must be met for the full 30 days by a maximum daily EC of 2.64, a maximum 14-day running average EC of 2.64 or 3-day outflow of 7,100cfs.

Chippis Island X2 standard –The standard must be met for 25 days by a maximum daily EC of 2.64, a maximum 14-day running average EC of 2.64 or 3-day outflow of 11,400cfs. So far, the standard has been met for 23 days in April.

Port Chicago was not triggered for April.

E/I Ratio –  $\leq 35\%$ .

Contra Costa Canal – CI  $\leq 150$  mg/L.

South Delta – 30-day average EC  $\leq 1.0$

Suisun Marsh = EC  $\leq 11$

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